

helping, and doing part of the job of trying to protect, in terms of liability, but they may not have a formal squad or something that they belong to in these rural areas of the state. So this would make it clear that that protection would apply to all those carrying out that function, not just for the particular squad members. So I would appreciate your support of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any discussion on the committee amendments? If not, those in favor of the adoption of the amendments vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of committee amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Committee amendments are adopted. Back to the bill, Senator Peterson, will you be handling the bill?

SENATOR PETERSON: Mr. Speaker and members, bring you this bill because of the problems out there, especially in rural Nebraska, and also in some of the Class I municipalities. This was brought and introduced in behalf of the emergency medical technicians who provide an invaluable service for the citizens of this state, and on behalf of many municipalities in our state who have tried to obtain insurance companies for coverage for EMTs who serve their communities. Emergency medical technicians provide an invaluable service for citizens of this state. Over the past few years, it has become very difficult for these EMTs to get insurance coverage. In fact, we have seen a number of cases where a number of people on EMTs quitting in some of the rural areas because of what they do and are scared to go out because of liability. Currently many of them, as I stated, are unable to get insurance coverage at any cost and under Section 35-107 it provides that no member of a volunteer fire department or a volunteer first-aid, rescue or emergency squad which provides emergency public first-aid and rescue service shall be liable in any civil action to respond to damages as a result of his or her act of commission or omission, arriving out of any cause of his rendering in...and the words that you've got to put in here is good faith and such services. LB 442 is a very important bill to these EMTs who are trained and dedicating their time and effort to save lives. LB 442 would amend Section 71-1501 to expressly grant EMTs the same type of immunity granted to members of volunteer fire department or volunteer first-aid rescue emergency. Expressly including the EMTs is important for classification, clarification, since most